Gauge conversion of Silchar-Lumding rail line

4547. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that no work has been started on Silchar-Lumding broad gauge line for which foundation has been laid;

(b) if so, by when the work on this project will start and when will it be completed; and

(c) whether Government propose to sanction more funds for the implementation of this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The required clearances have been received. Final Location survey and preparation of detailed estimate are being taken up. The work would be taken up as soon all preliminary arrangement are completed. Completion of the work depends upon availability of resources.

(c) Rs. 34 crs. have been provided in 1997-98 budget for this project which are quite adequate.

Reservation quota in various Trains at Bhopal Station

4548. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the quota of berths available daily on various trains at Bhopal railway station to various directions;

(b) whether there is public demand for increasing this quota; and

(c) if so, the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) A total reservation quota of 5794 berths/seats is available at Bhopal for booking in trains towards various directions.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The reservation quotas are reviewed from time to time and additional quotas are provided where justified and feasible. Details of the additional quotas provided at Bhopal after October, 1996 are given in the statement attached

Statement

Statement referred to in reply to Part (c) of Unstarred question No. 45-18 asked by Shri Suresh Pachouri to be answered in Rajya Sabha on 16.5.97 regarding Reservation quota in various trains at Bhopal Station.

The additional/fresh reservation quotas allotted at Bhopal station after October, 1996 is as under:

S.No.	Train No.	Class	Quota	W.E.F.
1.	2723 A.P. Express	AC 3-Ticr	2	14.11.96
2.	1037 Punjab Mail	AC 2-Tier	2	6.11.96
		AC 3-Tier	4	
3.	5092 Gorakhpur-Bangalore Express	AC 2-Tier	7	7.10.96
		Sleeper	24	
4.	8544. Samta Express	AC 2-Tier	3	5.11.96
5,	1038 Punjab Mail	AC 2-Tier	2	20.01.97
		AC 3-Tier	12	
6.	2622 T.N. Express	Sleeper	2	11.3.97
7.	4313 Dadar-Bareilly Express	First	6	31.3.97